

WHERE RIP SLEPT FOR 20 LONG YEARS

Catskill and Shawangunk
Mountain Region Is Replete
With Beautiful Scenery

TOURISTS' YEARLY MECCA

Fishing and Good Roads Help
Keep the Hotels Crowded
With Visitors

Kingston, N. Y., June 15.—The big vacation land of Rip Van Winkle, in the Catskill and Shawangunk Mountain region, will have more of interest this year for the summer vacationist and the occasional tourist than ever before. A wealth of natural beauty, in many places unsurpassed by any other scenery in America, is supplemented by motor routes which have become famous throughout the country. Hotels, boarding houses and cottage colonies whose equal is not elsewhere in North America, and a variety of attractions for the visitor which are a source of constant pleasure.

Each week presents some big event of overshadowing importance. First, its location is in the Catskill Mountain range, then in the smaller but equally famous Shawangunk Mountain range. This week the Shawangunk range has come into prominence through the conference of executive officers of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. and associated companies throughout the United States and the demonstration of transcontinental telephoning which were prepared by engineers of the Bell system to show the practical realization of past dreams.

Yama Farms, near Nanamoch, Ulster County, was the scene of the conference and the remarkable demonstrations. The formation of the Shawangunk and Catskill ranges is alike in one respect, in that each range possesses many sections where the mountains seemingly form a complete circle with a crater-like center, out of which apparently there is no means of egress. A turn in the road or a swoop of a hill always shows, of course, the valleys through which passage is made from one mountain section to another, because there is no connection completely hemmed in by mountains.

The Valley of the Rondout at Nanamoch possesses the formation mentioned, and Yama Farms, standing on an elevation in the center of the valley, furnishes the traveler with the sensation of being in the center of a bowl-shaped region, whose entire horizon is a succession of mountain peaks. The wooded slopes are dotted with the homes of prosperous farmers and business men, hotels and boarding houses, bungalow colonies, inns and wayside restaurants. They half peek out from the wooded slopes, and here, as throughout the rest of the Catskill-Shawangunk mountain region, nature has been bountiful in verdure, whose combination of colors from early spring until the last of the foliage has fallen defies the attempts of artists to reproduce it, although all artists try to do so.

Bell Telephone Conference
Into this region, because of its extraordinary qualifications for experimental purposes, for its health-giving and restful qualities, and because of its nearness to the big cities of Eastern North America, the executive officers of the Bell Telephone system and its associated companies come annually for their conference on matters pertaining to telephone operation throughout the United States in particular, and in a general way to consult on the telephone matters of the entire world. Spring still lingers in this region so far as the youthful beauty of the foliage is concerned, and even the practical executives of telephone systems that are tingling very second with the zest of business life find they can consult to better advantage among the quiet hills and mountains of this region than elsewhere. And the engineers who are engaged in making constant advancement in the science and art of telephony come here also because conditions for their demonstrations are more nearly perfect than in any other region.

For this year's demonstration to the executive officers of the American and its associated telephone companies the engineers of the Bell system decided to employ the amplifying apparatus, which was first used publicly by President Harding when he delivered his inaugural address at Washington on March 4. But the telephone engineers decided to do something more. The Bell Telephone loud talker had passed the experimental stage when it was used at the inauguration ceremonies in March. One hundred and twenty-five thousand people massed in front and at either side of President Harding had been enabled, by



IN THE LAND OF RIP

the aid of the amplifiers, to hear distinctly every word he uttered. The building at his back prevented the crowd from surrounding him entirely, so the engineers decided to demonstrate that with the use of the amplifiers it was not necessary for a man to face his audience.

How It Was Worked Out

At the edge of the golf course at Yama Farms they erected a steel tower, surmounted by steel rings from which the projectors, or horns, might swing from the center to any part of the circle. Half of the circle was used for placing the projectors at regular intervals, so that if the demonstration worked out as had been planned one-half of the circle of mountains would hear what the entire world wanted to know. Then to demonstrate further, a single projector was swung from the steel ring pointing toward the mountain opposite.

For purposes of comparison between the Yama Farms demonstration and the inaugural ceremonies, a chalk line was drawn, with the tower as the central point, eighty feet round. This was the distance at which President Harding's voice, unassisted by the amplifiers, had been clearly distinguishable when he was delivering his address. At this distance the officers of the telephone companies listened to a brief talk by one of the engineers.

The air was so still that smoke from their cigars ascended perpendicularly most of the time, and only occasionally did sufficient air stir to waft it to the various points of the compass. The movement and rustle of a large crowd, which affects the carrying power of the unaided human voice, particularly in the open air, was entirely missing. The only sound to break the stillness of the quiet afternoon was the music of the song birds among the trees of the forested slopes.

SUMMER RESORTS
KINGSTON, N. Y.

The voice of the speaker at eighty feet distance could be heard clearly but at times rather faintly. Any man who has stood on the edge of a large outdoor crowd listening to a public speaker has had the same sensation that was felt by the executive officers as they listened—they could hear, but the effort required close attention. Further away the sound of the voice became fainter until only an occasional word came over the green.

Then the signal was given to put in use the amplifiers, and at the same instant the speaker began reading the Declaration of Independence. The sound of the voice carried far. It reached across the golf course, to the wooded slopes and beyond, clear to the mountain tops. It filled one-half the valley. The air was resonant with the sound of the speaker's voice as he enunciated clearly every syllable of the famous Philadelphia document. It seemed to come from no particular direction. The air was simply alive with the voice, the tone and quality the same as the naked voice the audience had just heard, only magnified many times; inflections and shades of expression perfectly reproduced.

The demonstration of the amplifiers showed that the human voice, under the conditions of this region, can be heard for a distance of three miles.

Communication With Chicago

As part of the demonstration to the telephone companies' executives, communication was established with Chicago over one of the transcontinental circuits. Seated comfortably in a large room of one of the cottages, the executives conversed on telephone topics as the connections were being made. Then suddenly the room was filled with the sound of a new voice, amplified many times but not as many, of course, as when the speaker is addressing all outdoors. The voice was in Chicago, where officials had gathered to greet the executives assembled in New York State. No individual instruments were in sight; in fact, the only apparatus visible was the small disk by which the sound is received, mounted on a small stand. Conversation between the two groups of men, separated by 900 miles, became general, and finally musical selections played in the Chicago office were reproduced with all the beauty of their original expression in the cottage in the heart of the Shawangunk Mountain region.

Connections also were made for a very brief time with San Francisco, but the necessity of using the Colorado circuit for business connected with the relief of the Colorado flood sufferers necessitated a postponement of that part of the demonstration.

Attractions for Tourists

Mrs. J. B. Stetson, of Philadelphia, has been touring the Catskill-Shawangunk region and expects to return to Kingston. She is one of the many Philadelphians who find rest and recreation in the mountainous section of this region.

Stamford, in the Western Catskills, and Lake Mohonk, on the eastern brow of the Shawangunk Range, always have been popular resorts with Philadelphia vacationists. Stamford long has been known as the "Queen of the Catskills," and the appellation of agreement has been justly bestowed. Stamford's increasing popularity as a year-round resort has resulted for several years in some of the choice hotels remaining constantly open for the accommodation of motor tourists and those who seek its high, clear and dry climate for winter sports when highways are in the grip of winter.

For the summer vacationist who enjoys golf, Stamford offers the only regulation eighteen-hole golf course in that section of the Catskills. It forms part of the Stamford Country Club, where visitors are made welcome and where some of the best tournaments of the season annually are played. Kingston also has a standard course, at the Twaitskill Club, where the annual tournament of the Hudson River Golf Association will be played on June 23, 24 and 25. Other well-known courses through the region are the Country Club course at Palenville, the Grant House, at Catskill, the Catskill Mountain House, the Grand Hotel at Highmount, Hotel Kaaterskill and the Ontario Club near Tannersville, Lake Mohonk and Yama Farms.

Baseball is just as popular as in past years and the try-outs in every section have come up fully to the expectations of the various communities. Stamford's team will be composed largely of

students from Eastern colleges and universities; Roxbury, Delhi, Andes, Tannersville, Haines Falls and Cairo have organized teams of acknowledged strength; Catskill has a team which has beaten the well-known General Electric team, of Schenectady; Lake Mohonk has a team which already is making a record for itself; Saugerties and Kingston are playing baseball of professional excellence; Liberty, Monticello, Fallsburgh, South Fallsburgh and Livingston Manor support teams

which are living up to their former reputation.

Good Trout Fishing
Trout fishing holds its interest for all sportsmen who have whipped the streams that dance down the slopes of the Catskills and the Shawangunks, and this year has added a host of expert anglers from all sections of the Eastern States who delight in fishing in and along streams unencumbered by

Continued on Next Page

SUMMER RESORTS
STAMFORD, N. Y.



In the Western Catskills

2000 feet above the seaboard—swept by the wonderfully exhilarating air for which this section is famous. Inspiring scenery; mountains, valleys, woods, lakes, streams. Land and water sports, indoor games. Stamford has electricity throughout, model sanitation, spring mountain water, five churches.

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For travel map, list of hotels and general information address

Catskill-Shawangunk Mountain Assn.
Kingston, New York



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A list of Hotels and Boarding Houses revised for the season of 1921 will be sent free on request.
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